













Three Worcester tradesmen were fined recently for selling oleomarga-

The Board of Managers of the State Exposition will be able to hold their annual meeting at Augusta on Tuesday, Jan. 10th, next.

There is nothing like "feeling big." St. Louis is to hold a National Sheep Shearing Festival in the spring. Turning out a national sheep shearing competition to the entire country is one easy matter, but making it national in its representation is a more difficult task.

It seems to the maker that pork at \$10 a barrel and round hog at five cents a pound are bottom prices, but how do Boston statesmen think it would not surprise a farmer if prices should drop off considerably?

What next? The English Gosh Society has a herd book for kids, and 128 young goats of leading gosh families are already registered. The duties of the males should be next ogarized and have their breeding records kept.

Who's the well-known cattle feeder, Mr. John

...ers in Chicago the week before Christ-  
...as for export purposes, London being

The annual meeting of the State Board of Agriculture occurred on Wednesday, Thursday, Jan. 20th and 21st. The meeting was held at the secretary's office at the State House. In addition to routine business, papers will be read prepared for the occasion, treating of subjects in which the members are specially interested.

Western farmers complain severely of the heavy decline in prices of beef cattle. Some of them bought a year ago and fed with corn all that time, bringing less per pound now than then. One cause of this excessive supply is the fact that the enormous crop of large hogs slaughtered in Indian reserves has been marketed.

Another cause is the extraordinary abundance of hog products caused by fear of hog cholera. Both these causes are tem-

Stock of any kind should be closely watched by the feeder who has it in charge.

that he may readily detect when anything is going wrong with them. The more he knows in the highest degree out of condition it is in the more he is the critical observer. In stock raising, and frequently what might at first be a wise result in a season, is easily averted if taken in season. Extreme skill in the care of stock is almost most intuitively anticipates all trouble. Besides when the stockman is in the habit of knowing their daily wants, and cares for them with regularity and with good judgment, there is little danger of anything going wrong with them. The stockman who has a knowledge of their wants are the principal cause of all trouble with the stock.

Men can no more make money from Merinos on low, rank, high priced pasturage, than they can on dry, scanty and remote pasturage, than they can gather grapes from thorns or figs from thistles. The man who has the least of these things, before the contest has been long protracted,

no doubt that it is correct in claiming that the peculiar conditions required in each

are widely different. With the larger breeds there must be a considerable amount of close keeping, and corresponding quick and large returns to meet the outlay and the expense of the stock. With the smaller breeds, and with fine wool sheep, cheapness of maintenance is a consideration, but not so important, and still leave a satisfactory profit. The kind of sheep must be adapted to the work proposed.

Good stock continues to multiply in this county. Mr. Lewis Keshner of the Kingfield, has a fine little herd of Herefords which was started from purchases of Burleigh & Bodwell. This herd is made up of one, two and three year olds, one yearling, and two heifer calves, all fine animals. The Bull, Mountain Chick, was exhibited at the State Fair last fall, and just prior to the fair he was sold for \$100.00. Just past two years old and is a well built, robust animal. There are also in the herd several choice yearling heifers. Mr. Keshner finds this stock very profitable, and

value to the community in which they are kept. Mr. Keshner also has a cheetah Shyam,

The annual meeting of the Iowa Butter and Cheese Association convened in Ottumwa, Dec. 15th., with a large attendance of representatives of the industry. The session was taken up with reports, the principal one being by Secretary Litterer, giving some very interesting information regarding the great frauds in the industry which have been discovered in dairy products. The Committee on Legislation reported a bill providing for the suppression of the frauds, and providing for the punishment of those guilty of such offenses. The bill is directed against manufacturing and selling bogus butter, representing it to be genuine. In addressing the association was welcomed by the mayor of the city, and addresses were delivered by the president of the association, Mr. Sherman, and by the State Commissioner of Agriculture. The meeting augurs well for the renewed interest in the important industry represented.

The barbed wire manufacturers of the United States held a special meeting at the

Sherman House, Chicago, Dec. 16th.

About 80 per cent. of all the licensed toners are represented. An advance of 10 per cent. has been agreed to, and a schedule of prices adopted, to govern the trade until Jan. 1st at that rate. In fifty ton per cent. or over, the price will be 50 cents per pound, from Chicago and East St. Louis, and 45 cents for the balance of the country. The price will be less than fifty ton lots on painted vases. The balance agreed to is 10 per cent. for sixty days' credit, which is considered the same as cash; a 3 per cent. reduction is given from the schedule price. The reason given for this advance is that the price of 5 per cent. per pound by the Eastern wire drawers, which has been in operation since 1901. The different wire manufacturers throughout the country have been notified to withdraw all offers made to country buyers at the old rates.

**Treating Bone Meal.**

(Answered by Prof. W. M. Jordan, Director of the Illinois Experiment Station.)

a few questions, if you will be pleased consider them. I have two tons of bones

1. There is a great difference between the action of ashes on bone and the action of phosphoric acid (oil of vitrol). In the first case the action is largely physical, rendering the bone more porous and thus allowing a very slow dissolving process to take place, the limited chemical change which occurs being due to the action of the phosphoric acid on the bone. In the latter case, a violent action takes place, the bone at once takes place, which renders a large part of the phosphoric acid at once available, and readily assimilable, while the ashes render the bone more porous and thus in a much finer condition there seems to be a more rapid action.

nitrogen when bone is treated with ashes not unavoidable, as this loss can be avoided

completely prevented by introducing a small proportion of plaster into the mixture, and keeping the whole moist. If your correspondent can wait for the asthma to act upon the bones during the warm weather of another summer, he will be sure to have the material of the bone put into the most easily available form possible, the mixture of bone, ashes and plaster will improve the condition of the bone, and of course, cheaper than to buy both acids and ashes. If the ashes would do the work of the acid, they would be much the cheaper at 10 cents per bushel, as the potash is at 15 cents. The hard wood ashes of a bushel of unslacked hard wood ashes of average quality is worth commercially